

Claims:

5 1. A skull crucible (1) for melting or refining inorganic substances, in particular glass or glass ceramics;

1. 1.1 with a crucible wall (1.1);

2. 1.2 with a crucible base (1.2);

10 3. 1.3 with an induction coil (2) surrounding the crucible wall (1.1) wall and via which high frequency-energy is coupled to contents of the crucible;

4. 1.4 the crucible wall is formed from a crown of metal tubes which can be connected to a coolant, with slotted interstices between adjacent metal tubes;

5. 1.5 the base (1.2) has a run-off for the melt;

15 6. 1.6 a sleeve (4) is assigned to the run-off;

7. 1.7 the inlet end (4.1) of the sleeve protrudes into the inner chamber of the skull crucible (1) so that the melt can be removed through the crystallised base layer in a controlled manner without the danger of impairing its quality.

20 2. A skull crucible as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the upper edge of the sleeve (4) is at a height of between a tenth to a half of the melt height measured from the base (1.2) of the crucible.

25 3. A skull crucible as claimed in 1 or 2, characterised in that the sleeve (4) is assigned a device for adjusting or regulating its temperature.

30 4. A skull crucible as claimed in Claim 3, characterised in that the upper area of the sleeve (4) projecting into the melt and forming a cavity is double-walled, and in that the cavity has an inlet (4.3) and an outlet (4.4) for a coolant.

5. A skull crucible as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterised by the following features:

1. 5.1 the sleeve (4) has two coaxial sleeves;
2. 5.2 the outer sleeve is a metal jacket;
3. 5.3 the inner sleeve is a quartz glass tube.

6. A skull crucible as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the sleeve is height-adjustable.